

Dear members of the FCC:

I am disappointed to hear that the FCC is even considering further deregulation of media outlets, and write this letter in the hope that my voice and others' will convince the commission that deregulation is not a good idea.

I believe there are good reasons for regulating the media. The media is not a typical industry - they wield a great deal of power, and with that power comes the responsibility to the public and the communities in which these industries serve. The further deregulation of broadcasting outlets would seriously undermine the democratic ideals this country was founded upon. The speed and degree with which radio has become consolidated after 1996's loosening of ownership rules was shocking, and commercial radio today makes a mockery of public interest, diversity and good journalism.

The fact that the FCC's consideration of further media deregulation has not made it into the news only serves to illustrate the point that further consolidation will increase filtering of news stories and further marginalize journalism that does not support the corporate media's political or economic priorities.

I cannot trust that corporations, as profit-seeking entities, will not seek to streamline, nationalize, and misrepresent if consolidation is allowed to continue. Pravda may be closer than we think.

Please, I urge you to vote against any additional media deregulations. Stand up for the real public's interest, not corporate interests.

Thanks,  
Sarah Kavage  
Seattle